THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation project are planned, investigated, implemented and funded by the State Government out of their own resources and as per their priorities. Hence, the States are planning irrigation projects to provide irrigation within the available water resources of the State. The State Government of Chhattisgarh has created an irrigation potential of 596.93 thousand hectare (Th. ha) through major and medium irrigation projects out of the ultimate irrigation potential of 885.29 Th. ha upto end of Ninth Five Year Plan.

Ban on drilling of handpumps

2995. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imposed ban not only on sinking of small handpumps for drilling drinking water but also on deepening the ones that have gone dry in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that as a result of severe water crisis, residents of the Capital have to pay both the police and Municipal Officers for not only drilling new tubewells but also for deepening the old ones which had gone dry; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) In view of fast depletion ground water levels and to check increase in salinity, the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has declared South and South-West districts of NCT of Delhi as 'notified' areas where, drilling of new tubewells and re-boring/deepening of existing tubewells without permission of the CGWA has been banned. However, permission is being accorded to Government water supply agencies, schools, institutes, hospitals and embassies on case-to-case basis. No ban has been imposed on installation of handpumps without using drilling rigs in the 'notified' areas.

(c) The Ministry of Water Resources is not aware of any such practice.

(d) Does not arise.

Height of Sardar Sarovar Dam

2996. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:
DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether height of the Sardar Sarovar dam was to reach 100mt. by June, 2002 and 110mt. by June, 2003;

(b) whether it is a fact that the target of raising the dam to height of 100mt. by June, 2002 could not be achieved due to delay in completion of R&R works to be carried out in the participating States and non-extending of cooperation by them; and

(c) if so, what mechanism Government are considering for resolving differences among the participating States and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The target of raising the dam height to elevation level (EL) 100.0 metre (m) as per the action plan could not be achieved due to some delay in the Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) works to be completed by participating States. The States have been trying their best for the R&R of the Project Affected Families (PAF) in a time bound manner. However, The dam was raised up to EL 100.0 m by June, 2003.

(c) The Union of India through Review Committe of Narmada Control Authority (RCNCA) chaired by the Union Minister of Water Resources, Narmada Control Authority (NCA) chaired by Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Water Resources; Resettlement & Rehabilitation Sub-Group of NCA chaired by Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment; and Environment Sub-Group of NCA chaired by Secreatry to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests consider and resolve the differences, if any, among the party States.